COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS

IN ASCENDING ORDER WITH STATUS INDICATOR

1.   (Currently Amended) A printer driver for association with a data stream being presented to a printer, said data stream adapted to enable said printer to print on one or more sheets of paper information in accordance with said data stream, said data stream containing ~~certain~~ data bits useful for controlling functions additional to said printing information in accordance with said data stream, said driver comprising:

means for abstracting at least a portion of said ~~certain~~ data bits from said data stream;

means for using at least some of said abstracted data for controlling at least one of said additional functions, wherein said at least one of said additional functions comprises printing of a postage indicia; and

means for creating, from said abstracted data, data for controlling the printing of said postage indicia.

2.   (Currently Amended) The printer driver of claim 1 wherein said at least one additional function comprises ~~the~~ printing of address information on material separate from said printing information in accordance with said data stream.

3.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 1 wherein said at least one additional function comprises the printing of a postage indicia on material separate from said printing.

4.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 1 wherein said at least one additional function comprises a dialog box for allowing options from a user.

5.   (Currently Amended) The printer driver of claim 1 wherein said at least one additional function comprises accepting ~~additional~~ data from ~~another~~ a source other than said data stream.

6.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 1 wherein said at least one additional function comprises directing the abstracted portion to multiple locations.

7.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 1 wherein said at least one additional function comprises storage in a memory.

8.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 1 wherein said at least one additional function comprises directing the abstracted portion to a viewable medium.

9.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 1 wherein said at least one additional function comprises the changing of form of the data.

10.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 1 wherein said at least one additional function comprises the delivery of said data to a location remote from said printer driver.

11.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 1 wherein said at least one additional function comprises the change in location and/or format of the data based upon an interaction between certain data in said data stream and data stored in said printer driver.

12.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 1 wherein said printer driver is operable on said data stream coming from a program operating in a computing device to control at least a portion of the printing of said printer.

13.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 12 wherein said printer driver is located remote from said computing device.

14.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 12 wherein said printer driver is located within said printer.

15.   (Currently Amended) The printer driver of claim 12 wherein said abstracting means includes:
        means for examining said data stream for ~~certain~~ preestablished data patterns.

16.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 15 wherein said data patterns are selected from the list including:
        return address, destination address, mailing date, number of pages, type of inserts, mailing service type, postage indicia, bar codes, tracking codes, control codes, graphics, application types.

17.   (Currently Amended) The printer driver of claim 15 wherein said ~~certain~~ preestablished data patterns include the beginning and ending of postage indicia data.

18.   (Previously Presented) The printer driver of claim 15 wherein said additional function comprises the printing of said postage indicia on a document other than the document to which said data stream is being directed.

19.   (Currently Amended) The printer driver of claim 15 wherein said ~~certain~~ preestablished data patterns include the beginning and ending of address information contained within said data stream.

20.   (Canceled)

21.   (Currently Amended) The printer driver of claim 15 wherein said ~~certain~~ preestablished data patterns include the beginning and ending of each document to be printed.

22.   (Currently Amended) The printer driver of claim 15 wherein said ~~certain~~ preestablished data patterns include the number of pages of a document.

23.   (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A method of printing certain information on a printed document, said method comprising the steps of:
        sending a data stream to a printing device so that said printing device ~~may~~ prints one or more documents from said data stream;
        reviewing said data stream to create therefrom a separate data stream for controlling additional functions with respect to said printing of said documents;
        maintaining in a secure memory an amount available for controlling the generation of a postage indicia;
        calculating under joint control of said secure memory and said separate data stream an amount of postage to be applied to a particular document to be printed; and
        deducting said calculated postage amount from said secure memory if said calculated postage amount is available in said secure memory.

24.   (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein said additional functions are selected from the list including printing address information, printing postage indicia, folding a printed document, stuffing a printed document into an envelope, creating a mailing address for the delivery of a printed document, creating a postage indicia, creating an auxiliary document in association with a printed document, controlling a second printer operating in conjunction with said printer, verifying the address, normalizing the address, adding delivery bar codes.

25.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said reviewing step includes the step of:

copying from said data stream ~~certain~~ portions of said data stream.

26.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 wherein said ~~certain~~ portions include address information with respect to a particular document to be printed.

27.   (Original) The method of claim 26 further including the step of:

creating from said copied address information a postage indicia.

28.   (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein said separate data stream includes data accepted from a source other than said data stream to said printing device.

29.   (Canceled)

30.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 wherein said ~~certain~~ portions include postage indicia information with respect to a particular document to be printed.

31.   (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein said reviewing step includes the step of enabling a dialog box.

32.   (Original) The method of claim 31 wherein said dialog box interacts with a user to provide at least one of the following:

return address and logo

data of mailing

address verification/prompt for insufficient information

review scanned data

hints for scanning data stream

additional cover page information or label/envelope customization

delivery (mail service, fax, e-mail, etc.)

options (postage amount, paper weight, weight of inserts, additional mail services).

33.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product for use in association with a data stream being directed to a general purpose printer, said data stream adapted to enable said printer to print information in accordance with said data stream, said computer program product comprising:

an abstracting program operable for reviewing said data stream to obtain therefrom information for controlling printing operations ancillary to said printing operation; and

a controller working in cooperation with said abstracting program and with said obtained information for enabling at least one said ancillary printing-operation, wherein said at least one ancillary-operation comprises the printing of a postage indicia on material separate from material on which said printing is occurring.

34.   (Previously Presented) The computer product of claim 33 wherein said at least one ancillary operation comprises the printing of address information on material separate from material on which printing is occurring.

35.   (Canceled)

36.   (Previously Presented) The computer product of claim 33 wherein said one ancillary operation comprises the acceptance of data from a source other than said data stream.

37.   (Original) The computer product of claim 33 wherein said computer product is operable on said data stream coming from a general purpose computing device.

38.   (Original) The computer product of claim 37 wherein said computer product is located remote from said computing device.

39.   (Original) The computer product of claim 37 wherein said computer product is located within said printer.

40.   (Original) The computer product of claim 33 wherein said abstracting program includes:

a control program for examining said data stream for certain preestablished data patterns.

41.   (Original) The computer product of claim 40 wherein said certain preestablished data patterns include the beginning and ending of postage indicia data.

42.   (Previously Presented) The computer product of claim 40 wherein one said ancillary operation comprises the printing of said postage indicia on a document other than the document to which said data stream is being directed.

43.   (Original) The computer product of claim 40 wherein said certain preestablished data patterns include the beginning and ending of address information contained within said data stream.

44.   (Original) The computer product of claim 43 wherein said computer product further contains:

a program for creating from said address information data for controlling the printing of a postage indicia.

45.   (Original) The computer product of claim 43 wherein said certain preestablished data patterns include the beginning and ending of each document to be printed.

46.   (Original) The computer product of claim 33 wherein said data patterns are selected from the list including:

return address, destination address, mailing date, number of pages, type of inserts, mailing service type, postage indicia, bar codes, tracking codes, control codes.